(b) Details of villages electrified in the State of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years are given below:

Year		Villages electrified
2000-01	(Upto December, 2002)	280
2001-02		358
2002-03		45

(c) 800 villages were targeted for the year 2000-01 for Uttar Pradesh including Uttaranchal under Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). 418 villages were electrified during 2000-01 in the undivided Uttar Pradesh.

Requirement, availability and shortage of power in U.P.

†881. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the requirement and the percentage availability and shortage of power in Uttar Pradesh during the years 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 and to date;

(b) the steps taken to bridge the gap between the supply and demand; and

(c) to what extent the situation of power has improved after taking these steps?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) The power supply position in Uttar Pradesh during the years 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2002-03 (April, 2002 — January, 2003) was as under:

Energy (MU)

	1999-2000	2000-2001	Apr. 02—Jan. 03
Requirement	44525	46295	38436
Availability	38800	39556	30875
Shortage	5725	6739	7561
Percentage (%)	12.9	14.6	19.7
Percentage Availability (%)	87.1	85.4	80.3

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

PEAK(MW)

[26 February, 2003] RAJYA SABHA

PEAK (MW)

	1999-2000	2000-2001	Apr. 02-Jan. 03
Peak Demand	6580	7200	6685
Peak Met	5058	6119	5699
Deficit	1522	1081	986
Percentage (%)	23.1	15.0	14.7
Percentage Availability (%)	76.9	85.0	85.3

(b) and (c) In order to mitigate power shortage in the State, the following steps are being taken:

(i) Besides capacity addition of 710 MW in State Sector in UP, generation capacity of 7340 MW is planned to be set up in Central Sector in Northern Region during Tenth Plan in which U.R will have entitlements.

(ii) Implementation of Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension (R&M & LE) Schemes for old and inefficient generating units for overall improvement in generation performance. Power Finance Corporation have disbursed loan of Rs. 217.22 Crores for Renovation, Modernization and Life Extension of power projects located in U.R under Accelerated Generation and Supply Programme during Ninth Plan. Under this scheme interest subsidy @4% was provided to the power utilities.

(iii) Enhancement in evacuation of surplus power from Eastern region to other regions including Northern Region of which U.P. is a constituent by setting up of inter-regional links. Recently, Sasaram HVDC back-to-back station has been commissioned which has facilitated transfer of 500 MW from Eastern Region to Northern Region in asynchronous mode. U.P. is also a beneficiary of Eastern Region power.

(iv) Promoting energy efficiency and energy conservation measures.

(v) Government of India is striving for achieving financial turn around of State Electricity Boards/Utilities so as to enable them to become commercially viable.To bring about reforms in distribution, Ministry

of Power in Government of India has launched Accelerated Power Development & Reforms Programme (APDRP) as a major step towards reduction in aggregate transmission and commercial losses and attaining commercial viability of the power sector. Rs 13.03 Crores in 2000-01 and Rs. 32.12 Crores in 2002-03 have been released for sub-transmission and distribution schemes under APDRP to Uttar Pradesh. The schemes have been recently taken up and the effect by way of improvement in supply to consumers can be assessed after successful implementation.

Evaluation Study on Watershed Projects in A.P.

882. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ministry of Rural Development had sponsored an evaluation study on Watershed Projects in Andhra Pradesh by Agricultural Finance Corporations;

(b) if so, the findings of the study;

(c) the recommendations of study;

(d) in the light of findings of the study, whether Government proposes to sanction more projects for Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) A quick evaluation study of the watershed projects in the country including Andhra Pradesh was undertaken during 1999-2000 through the Agricultural Finance Corporation, New Delhi.

(b) and (c) The Study had covered the implementation of watershed projects in 17 Districts under Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), in 11 Districts under Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and in 1 District under Desert Development Programme (DDP) during the years 1995-98. These projects covered a total area of 15.10 lakh ha. *i.e.* 12.52 lakh ha. under DPAP, 1.51 lakh ha. under DDP and